PATENT Docket No.: 48317USA3M.032

ELIZ DR DISTO

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

DANIEL A. JAPUNTICH ET AL.

Group Art Unit:

Express Mail Label No.: EL 599 632 450 US

Filed: April 18, 2001

Examiner:

For: FILTERING FACE MASK THAT HAS A NEW EXHALATION VALVE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend this application as set forth below.

IN THE TITLE:

Please replace the present title with the following title: --FILTERING FACE MASK THAT HAS A NEW EXHALATION VALVE--.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, lines 8-10, delete the paragraph and insert the following:

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This is a division of United States Patent Application Serial No. 08/240,877 filed May 11, 1994, which is a division of Application No. 07/981,244, filed November 25, 1992 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,325,892), which is a continuation-in-part of Application No. 07/891,289, now abandoned.

Page 3, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 7 and ending at line 9:

wherein, the fluid-permeable face mask can demonstrate a negative pressure drop when air is passed into the filtering face mask with a velocity of at least 8 m/s under a normal exhalation test.